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# FCC ANNOUNCES THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUPS OF THE TASK FORCE FOR REVIEWING THE CONNECTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF PRECISION AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

**GN Docket No. 19-329** 

This Public Notice serves as notice that, consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act<sup>1</sup> and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018,<sup>2</sup> Federal Communications Commission Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, in consultation with Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, has appointed Working Group members to serve on the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States (Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force or Task Force).

The following working groups will assist the Task Force in carrying out its work: (1) Mapping and Analyzing Connectivity on Agricultural Lands; (2) Examining Current and Future Connectivity Demand for Precision Agriculture; (3) Encouraging Adoption of Precision Agriculture and Availability of High-Quality Jobs on Connected Farms; and (4) Accelerating Broadband Deployment on Unserved Agricultural Lands. A full list of Task Force Working Group members appointed by the Chairwoman in consultation with the Secretary is attached to this Public Notice as Appendix A.<sup>3</sup>

More information about the Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force is available at <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/task-force-reviewing-connectivity-and-technology-needs-precision-agriculture-united-states">https://www.fcc.gov/task-force-reviewing-connectivity-and-technology-needs-precision-agriculture-united-states</a>. You may also contact Elizabeth Cuttner, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418-2145, or <a href="https://www.fcc.gov">Elizabeth.Cuttner@fcc.gov</a>; Stacy Ferraro, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418-0795, or <a href="https://www.fcc.gov">Stacy.Ferraro@fcc.gov</a>; or Lauren Garry, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418-0942, or <a href="https://www.fcc.gov">Lauren.Garry@fcc.gov</a>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (FACA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pub. L. No. 115-334, 132 Stat. 4490 (2018 Farm Bill).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For more information on the working groups, see FCC Announces and Solicits Nominations for Working Groups of the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States, GN Docket No. 19-329, Public Notice, 34 FCC Rcd 10496 (WCB 2019).

# APPENDIX A

# MEMBERS OF THE PRECISION AGRICULTURE CONNECTIVITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUPS

\*Indicates a member of the Precision Agriculture Connectivity Task Force

# Mapping and Analyzing Connectivity on Agricultural Lands Working Group

#### Chair:

Dr. Sreekala Bajwa\*

Vice President, Dean & Director, Montana State University College of Agriculture & Montana Agricultural Experiment Station

#### Vice Chair:

Lynn Follansbee

Vice President, Policy & Advocacy, USTelecom - The Broadband Association

# **Members:**

Dr. Michael Adelaine\*

CIO Emeritus & Special Advisor to the President, South Dakota State University

# Dan Barcus

Farmer & Rancher, Barcus Ranch, Blackfeet Nation

Teddy Bekele\*

Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, Land O'Lakes

# **Brent Birth**

Professional Land Surveyor & Business Developer, Pennsylvania American Water Company, *National Society of Professional Surveyors* 

# Joseph Carey

Director, Wireless Strategy, Natural Resources Sector, Trimble, Inc.

# The Honorable Tarryl Clark

Commissioner, Stearns County, Minnesota, National Association of Counties

• Alternate: Seamus Dowdall, Legislative Associate, National Association of Counties

# Luke Dervckx

Chief Technology Officer, Ookla

# Eric Forsch

Broadband Development Manager, Idaho Department of Commerce

# Todd Harpest

External Affairs & Regulatory Director, MetaLINK Technologies

# Miles Kuschel

Owner & Operators, Rocking K Ranch, Minnesota Farm Bureau

Benjamin Smith

Principal Advisor, Business Development & Market Validation, Kubota Tractor Corporation

Matt Splitter

Farmer & Member of Kansas Corn Growers Association, National Corn Growers Association

Jessica Zufolo

Vice President, Rural Broadband Strategy, Magellan Advisors

# **Examining Current and Future Connectivity Demand for Precision Agriculture Working Group:**

#### Chair:

Heather Hampton+Knodle\*

Vice President & Secretary, Knodle Ltd. Farms

# Vice Chair:

Joy Sterling\*

Chief Executive Officer, Iron Horse Vineyards

#### **Members:**

Seth Arndorfer

Chief Executive Officer, Dakota Carrier Network

Andy Bater\*

Farmer, Fifth Estate Growers LLC

Dr. Ranveer Chandra

CTO Agri-Food, Managing Director, Research for Industry, Microsoft

Chris Chinn

Director, Missouri Department of Agriculture, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

Cassandra Heyne

Regulatory Compliance Analyst, SpaceX

Ryan Krogh\*

Manager, Production System Program Management, John Deere

Daniel Maycock

Principal, Data Engineering, Loftus Labs

Jason Miller

Safety Manager, Tillman Infrastructure, NATE: The Communications Infrastructure Contractors Association

Aeric Reilly

Volunteer Policy & Strategic Management Director, U.S. Cattleman's Association

Brian Scarpelli

Senior Global Policy Counsel, *The App Association (ACT)* 

Steven Strickland

Director, Partnerships & Channels, Ericsson

# Mark Suggs

Executive Vice President & General Manager of Pitt & Greene Electric Membership Corporation, *National Rural Electric Cooperative Association* 

# George Woodward

President and CEO of Trilogy Networks, Inc., Rural Wireless Association

# **Encouraging Adoption of Precision Agriculture and Availability of High-Quality Jobs on Connected Farms Working Group:**

#### Chair:

Julie Bushell\*

President, Paige Wireless, Irrigation Association

#### Vice Chair:

Jarrett Taubman

Associate General Counsel, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Viasat

# **Members:**

The Honorable Dale Artho\*

Commissioner, Deaf Smith County, TX

The Honorable Loranne Ausley\*

Florida State Senator, Florida State Senate District 3

# Robert Blair

Farmer, Three Canyon Farms

# Lennie Blakeslee

Managing Director, Communications Division, CoBank

# Dr. Dennis Buckmaster

Professor of Agriculture and Biological Engineering and Dean's Fellow for Digital Agriculture, *Purdue University* 

# Michael Gomes\*

Vice President, Strategic Business Development, Topcon Agriculture

# Laslo Gross

Director, Product Marketing, Wireless Systems Solutions LLC

#### Robert Hance\*

President & CEO, Midwest Energy & Communications

# Dr. Randy Harp

Dean and Professor, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas A&M – Commerce

#### Keith Kaczmarek

Head of U.S. Business Development, Skylo Technologies

# Mike McCormick

President, Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation

Rob McDonald

Operations Manager, MT Networks LLC

Catherine Moyer

Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, Pioneer Communications

Russell Peotter

Senior Advisor, America's Public Television Stations

Joshua Seidemann

Vice President of Policy, NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association

# Accelerating Broadband Deployment on Unserved Agricultural Lands Working Group:

#### Chair:

Jennifer Manner\*

Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Hughes Network Systems, LLC

# Vice Chair:

Haran Rashes

Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, ExteNet Systems, Inc.

#### **Members:**

Renee Bivens

Analyst and Manager, State Government Affairs, DISH

**Garrett Hawkins** 

President, Missouri Farm Bureau

Anthony Dillard\*

Tribal Councilman, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Betsy Huber

President, The National Grange

Zach Hunnicutt

Farmer, Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

Cody Light

Senior Manager for Precision Ag Sales for Americas, AGCO Corp.

Carolyn Price

President, Upstate New York Towns Association

Dr. Alex Thomasson

Professor, Department Head, Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, *Mississippi State University* 

Jimmy Todd\*

Chief Executive Officer & General Manager, Nex-Tech

Dominic Walkes

Director of Strategic Initiatives, Raven Applied Technology

The Honorable Dan Watermeier Commissioner, Nebraska Public Service Commission

Brandon Wipf Farmer and Board of Directors Member, *American Soybean Association*